

Prioritizing Elements Of International Trade

In an attempt to determine the priority Canadians believe should be placed on certain foreign policy issues by the federal government, they were read a list of seven issues and asked to rate them on a scale of one to ten. The data was compiled such that the closer the rating score is to ten, the greater the priority which Canadians would like to see placed on that particular issue.

As the data which follows reveals, Canadians are clearly desirous of a trade policy which they see as beneficial for Canadian industries in the short term, such as developing new export markets, and expanding trade in existing markets. Other issues such as increasing foreign investment, providing developmental assistance to poor countries, and establishing protectionist policies are not seen as priority areas by the majority of Canadians.

	Average Rating (maximum 10.0)	% Rating 8, 9 or 10
Developing new export markets for Canadian industries	8.5	79
Expanding trade in existing markets	7.8	59
Improving trade relations in the U.S.	7.7	60
Developing sectoral trade arrangements with the U.S.	7.4	53
Increasing foreign investment in Canada	6.4	36
Giving more developmental assistance to the poor countries of the world	6.0	28
Imposing tighter restrictions on the importation of foreign cars	5.8	30
Base: (1000)		